AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A lithographic printing plate precursor comprising a metal support having formed thereon an anodic oxide film, said anodic oxide film having pores with a surface mouth diameter of from 0 to 30 nm and a maximum inside diameter of from 20 to 300 nm with the maximum inside diameter being larger than the surface mouth diameter, and an image-forming layer containing a light-to-heat converting agent provided on the anodic oxide film wherein a sealing treatment is performed on the surface mouth areas of the pores of the anodic oxide film and the pore diameters of the surface mouth areas are lessened.

2.-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The lithographic printing plate precursor as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thickness of the surface mouth area of the pore diameter of from 0 to 30 nm of the anodic oxide film is from 10 to 500 nm and the thickness of the area having the maximum inside diameter of from 20 to 300 nm is from 100 to 2,000 nm.

5. (Previously Presented) The lithographic printing plate precursor as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pore density of the surface area of the anodic oxide film is 2,500/μm^2 or less.

6. (Previously Presented) The lithographic printing plate precursor as claimed in claim 1, wherein the void ratio of the anodic oxide film is from 20 to 70%.

7. (Previously Presented) The lithographic printing plate precursor as claimed in claim 1, wherein the anodic oxide film is formed by anodic oxidation treatment with an electrolyte containing a sulfuric acid and then by anodic oxidation treatment with an electrolyte containing a phosphoric acid.

8. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A lithographic printing plate precursor ~~as claimed in claim 1, which comprises~~ comprising an aluminum support ~~comprising an aluminum sheet for use as the metal sheet of the metal support having formed thereon the anodic oxide film, a particle layer comprising particles having an average particle diameter of from 8 to 800 nm, and a the image-forming layer capable of image-forming with infrared laser exposure provided in this order~~ having formed thereon an anodic oxide film, said anodic oxide film having pores with a surface mouth diameter of from 0 to 30 nm and a maximum inside diameter of from 20 to 300 nm with the maximum inside diameter being larger than the surface mouth diameter, a particle layer comprising particles having an average particle diameter of from 8 to 800 nm and an image-forming layer containing a light-to-heat converting

agent and capable of image-forming with infrared laser exposure with the layers being provided in this order.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The lithographic printing plate precursor as claimed in claim [[8]] 1, wherein the heat conductivity of the particles is 60 W/(m°K) or less.

11. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A lithographic printing plate precursor ~~as claimed in claim 8, wherein the particle layer is formed by electrolytic treatment of the aluminum support with an electrolyte containing hydrophilic particles having an average particle diameter of from 8 to 800 nm~~ comprising an aluminum support having formed thereon an anodic oxide film, said anodic oxide film having pores with a surface mouth diameter of from 0 to 30 nm and a maximum inside diameter of from 20 to 300 nm with the maximum inside diameter being larger than the surface mouth diameter, a particle layer comprising particles having an average particle diameter of from 8 to 800 nm formed by electrolytic treatment of the aluminum support with an electrolyte containing hydrophilic particles having an average particle diameter of from 8 to 800 nm, and an image-forming layer containing a light-to-heat converting agent and capable of image-forming with infrared laser exposure with the layers being provided in this order.